

SALCOMBE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Medical Officer's Annual Report for year ending December 31st, 1906.

Area in Acres 1184·020, exclusive of Area covered by Water. Population,
1901 Census, 1710 ; Inhabited Houses, 419 ; Average Number of
Persons per House, 4·08.

GENTLEMEN :—

Births.

During the year 30 births were registered, viz ; 18 males and 12 females, giving a birth-rate of 17·5 per 1000 per annum. Average 1896-1905, 36 per 1000 per annum. Illegitimate births, none.

Deaths.

During the same period 17 deaths were registered, viz : 6 males and 11 females, giving a death-rate of 9·9 per 1000 per annum. Gross Average, 1896-1905, ~~28·5~~^{14·64} per 1000 per annum.

Zymotic death-rate, 1·1 per 1000 per annum. Deaths of residents in Workhouse, belonging to Salcombe, but not included in above number, 2.

Of the above deaths, two died under 1 year, two of 15 and under 25, six of 25 and under 65, and seven of 65 and upwards.

Enteric Fever	...	...	caused 2 deaths.
Phthisis	...	...	„ 2 „
Cancer	...	...	„ 2 „
Pneumonia...	...	...	„ 1 „
Heart Disease	...	...	„ 1 „
All other causes	...	...	„ 9 „

Total from all causes ... 17

Sickness.

69 new cases occurred among out-door Paupers registered and five in other practices.

Scarlatina	...	...	caused 4 cases.
Enteric Fever	...	...	„ 2 „
Erysipelas	...	...	„ 1 „
Epidemic Influenza	...	...	„ 12 „
Cancer	...	...	„ 1 „
Bronchitis	...	...	„ 8 „
Diarrhœa	...	...	„ 1 „
Heart Disease	...	...	„ 2 „
Dyspepsia	...	...	„ 4 „
Parturition	...	...	„ 1 „
Surgical Affections	...	...	„ 2 „
Other Diseases	...	...	„ 36 „

Total from all causes ... 74

SCARLATINA caused four cases in January, February and April, how contracted in first instance not discovered. Some cases in adjacent Parish.

ENTERIC FEVER.—Two cases fatal, one in May at 6, Orestone, undoubtedly caused by a leaky sewer near house ; the second case in August at Ingleside, Allenhay's Road, no cause discovered in house or surroundings, milk and food not suspected.

INFLUENZA was Epidemic in last quarter and in adjacent Parishes.

DESCRIPTION OF DISTRICT.—Same as in Annual Report of 1901.

Sanitary.

Of the items mentioned in last Annual Report not yet completed: Cesspool, South Sands for five houses, the sewage flowing on to a meadow, and was very offensive when visited. Plans for Septic Tanks have now been passed and are likely to be shortly constructed.

In our systematic and special inspections, self and Inspector note:

Re Factory and Workshops Act 1901, section 132, there are 8 Bakehouses, (none underground), 1 Laundry, 1 Tailor's Workshop, 4 Sempstresses' Workshops (one required to be repapered and painted), 3 Boatbuilders' Workshops, 5 Carpenters' Workshops, 2 Livery Stable Workplaces.

One Engine House containing two Oil Engines, fenced, all clean, ventilated, drained with sufficiency of airspace and sanitary conveniences, separate where required.

There are no homeworkers.

There are 13 Dairies and Cowsheds; of the latter, two required limewashing.

There are two Slaughter Houses, and these are kept clean.

One public W.C.'s and Urinal, clean.

At the Town Refuse Heap Space more refuse had been removed and there was more space for use when visited. The abundance of paper deposited should be frequently burned.

The Septic Tanks at North Sands are working satisfactorily.

Victoria Place, Nos. 10-13, a ventilating shaft has been put at the upper end of sewer.

Also, your Inspector reports:—

Four new Houses and one new W.C., certified to comply with the bye-laws.

There have been three W.C.'s improved.

Five nuisances, of various kinds, have been abated including over-crowding, Pigs' Inspection, &c., and a new sewer relaid in part of Buckley Street.

An enlarged Ordnance Map of the Town has been purchased, for marking in the positions of Sewers, &c.

Water Supply.

The old Oil Engine has been put in order, for working alternately with the new one. The "New Receiver" by side of Engine House has been fenced.

The supply of Water has been constant and sufficient, though the summer was drier than for several previous years; also, it was cleaner by not being turned off at night and thus avoiding scouring of pipes.

An Inspector of Water Taps was appointed in November.

Higher Batson Water Supply: Springs have been gauged at two different parts of the hamlet and borings made without success, the supply not being considered sufficient. An alternative scheme to take the Water from the town mains is now probably to be carried out.

Rainfall, 33'09 inches at Springfield. Average 1897-1906, 37'23 inches.

Sanitary Condition.

The Scavenging and Refuse Collection, three times weekly, and weekly in outlying parts of the district, about the average

The Sewer outlets on the Foreshores are periodically cleared. Much rubbish, &c. could be removed by Barges from the shores and would be some improvement to their condition, and increase scour by tides.

Steps should be taken to prevent shell and other fish from being caught on the half-tide mud nearest to Town.

I enclose Tables 1, 3, 4 and 5 and Factory Form.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

ARTHUR PEARCE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Rd.
Salcombe, January, 1907.

Seaton

